

Numismatics International

P.O. Box 30013

Dallas, Texas 75230

Sixty-sixth meeting of
NUMISMATICS INTERNATIONAL
Wednesday, December 17th, 1969

DINNER MEETING AND INSTALLATION OF 1970 OFFICERS

PLACE: El Fenix Mexican Restaurant
WHERE: 1601 McKinney (Downtown), Dallas
TIME: 7:30 P.M. Sharp!
COST: \$5.00 Per Person (Guests Invited)

MENU

Nachos

Meat Taco

Enchalada

Cheese Taco

Guacamole Salad

Rice

Fried Beans

Praline

Drink

(Anyone not desiring Mexican food may substitute a 6 oz. Club Steak with Baked Potato & Salad. Notice of substitution must be given to Ed Slade or Don Rubarts at least one day in advance.)

The Installation Dinner Program will begin at 7:30 with the serving of Nachos as an appetizer. Beer, ale and set-ups will be available to those desiring them at each members own expense. There will be musicians furnishing entertainment in the Latin manner from 7:30 to 8:30. The four First Place Exhibits from the November meeting will be on display from 7:00 until adjournment. Dinner will begin promptly at 8:00 to be followed by the program which will be highlighted by a talk by Mr. Holland Wallace, Associate Editor of Whitman Publishing Co.

Please include reservations with your coin order and mail early. Late reservations should be made by phone to Ed Slade (351-6662) or Don Rubarts (278-3276).

* * * * *

NOVEMBER MEETING IN BRIEF: The November meeting of NI was designated EXHIBIT NIGHT and, indeed, that was what it was. Twenty-three exhibits of exceptional quality and delightful ingenuity were on display. BILL PENSON, Exhibit Chairman, distributed Rule and Vote Sheets and explained that each member was to judge each and every exhibit using these sheets as a basis for their decisions. The result of this judging follows:

(Continued next page)

NOVEMBER MEETING IN BRIEF (Continued):

| | <u>ANCIENT & MEDIEVAL</u> | <u>MODERN COINS</u> | <u>PAPER MONEY</u> | <u>TOPICAL</u> |
|------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1st: | Ross Schraeder | Ed Slade, Jr. | Jack Lewis | Bill Benson |
| 2nd: | John Vandigriff | Cora Dulaney | Bill Benson | Marvin Fraley |
| 3rd: | Jack Lewis | Bill German | Tom Bain | K. T. Edwards |

| | <u>QUALITY OF NUMISMATIC RESEARCH</u> | <u>MOST UNUSUAL & INNOVATIVE</u> |
|------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1st: | Bill Benson | Bill Benson |
| 2nd: | Ralph Webb | Elmore B. Scott |
| 3rd: | Jack Lewis | Frances O. Landon |

The BEST OF SHOW "Founders Trophy" was won by Bill Benson with his exceptional display of "Primitive Money". Bill will retain the silver trophy until November 1970 when it will be up for award again. Better start planning your 1970 display now so that you can give him a battle in his effort to retain the trophy next year.

The following officers were presented and accepted unanimously to serve for 1970:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| President: | Bill Benson |
| Vice-President: | K. T. "Ed" Edwards |
| Secretary: | Dale Carpenter |
| Treasurer: | Bill German |

President Ed Slade reminded everyone to get in their reservations for the Christmas Dinner and adjourned the highly successful meeting.

Frances O. Landon, Publicity Chairman

* * * * *

COINS OFFERED FOR SALE TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

| | |
|---|------------|
| CEYLON, Y32-33, XF-AU | \$4.00 set |
| CZECHOSLOVAKIA, Y80, 1969, 25 Kor. Uprising Comm., UNC | 3.75 ea. |
| GIBRALTAR, Y1, 1969 (new date only), UNC | 1.75 ea. |
| GREAT BRITAIN, Y144, 50 New Pence, 1969, UNC | 1.75 ea. |
| GUERNSEY, 50 New Pence, 1969, UNC | 1.75 ea. |
| JERSEY, 50 New Pence, 1969, UNC | 1.75 ea. |
| POLAND, Y61, 10 Zl. 1969, 25th Anniv. Peoples Republic, UNC | .95 ea. |
| SOUTH VIET NAM, Y11, 20 Dong, 1968, FAO Coin, UNC | .95 ea. |
| WEST NEW GUINEA, Y1-5, XF, 1962 (See Page 113, CCW) | 8.50 set |

EXTRA COINS & BOOKS FROM PREVIOUS ORDERS STILL AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS:

| | |
|---|----------|
| 3 -- PHILIPPINES, Y46-49 (No 50¢ included), UNC | .50 set |
| 1 -- "Pillars and Portraits - 2nd Edition", by Harris | 3.75 ea. |

OUTSTANDING COIN ORDERS LISTED IN PAST BULLETIN:

| | |
|------------|--|
| Apr. 1969: | All Austria (Was lost in mail -- reorder now in process) |
| Aug. 1969: | All New Zealand, South Africa and Turks & Caicos |
| Sep. 1969: | India Gandhi Commemorative Set |
| Oct. 1969: | All Bulgaria |
| Nov. 1969: | All items outstanding |

NOVEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: Membership applications #409-419 publishing in the November Bulletin have been admitted to membership.

* * * * *

DECEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP: The following persons have applied for membership. If no written objection is received by January 1, 1970, their membership will become effective that date:

- 420-MT Walter T. JOHNSON, HHC, DLISC, P. O. Box 51588, Biggs Field, Fort Bliss, Texas 79918 -- (Oriental and Chinese Republican Period)
 421-MT O. W. ROBERSON, Box 336, San Miguel, Calif. 93451 (British Commonwealth)
 422-MT David W. De VILLIERS, Verreweide 18, Stellenbosch, Republic of South Africa -- All South African items

* * * * *

MEMBERS CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

- 352-MT James H. CENTER ENC, 8569 Blue Lake Dr. San Diego, Cal. 92119 Chinese Struck Coinage
 158 S. M. Sgt. Wm. A. PETERS, 4096-4 Edgebrook Dr. Andrews AFB Maryland 20331 -- World Types

* * * * *

NEW ISSUES WITH ASSIGNED YEOMAN NUMBERS AND NI ESTIMATED VALUES:

| <u>COUNTRY</u> | <u>TENTATIVE CATALOG NO. & ISSUE</u> | <u>NI VALUE</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| BIAFRA: | Y2 1 Shilling 1969, aluminum | 1.00 |
| CHINA-NAT. | Y21 1 Yuan 1969, copper-nickel | .35 |
| GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (EAST) | Y21 5 Mark 1969, copper-nickel 20th Ann Y22 20 Mark 1969, silver 220th Ann. of birth of Goethe | 5.00 18.50 |
| GUERNSEY | Y15 50 New Pence 1969, copper-nickel | 2.00 |
| ISRAEL | Y50 10 Pounds 1970, silver, Pidyon HaBen | 8.50 |
| JERSEY | Y33 50 New Pence 1969, copper-nickel | 2.00 |

(The catalog numbers assigned to new issues published here are supplied by special arrangement with "Current Coins of the World", published and copyrighted by Western Publishing Co., Inc. Whitman Publishing Division, Racine, Wisconsin, U.S.A. No further use of these catalog numbers in any other publications is authorized.) --

(Pricing is the estimated value assigned by Numismatics International and does not reflect prices that will later be assigned in "Current Coins of the World".)

SOME AINCIENT COINS

by Victor Levie, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Since our junior member Victor Levie (Age 14) is still not conversant enough in English, with great pleasure I (Matthew J. van der Voort) helped him in writing this report on some ancient coins he recently acquired. A patient of his father, a dentist, gave Victor a handful of ancient coins. I identified them as far as possible for him.

For a moment, the types and quality of the coins disregarding, the interest of the coins lies in the fact that they were dug up in the Amphitheater of Ephesus, Ionia in 1968 in Asia Minor. Some groundworkers there found a hoard of ancient coins and since they did not report the find to the authorities, but divided the hoard among themselves, trying to sell them to interested tourists, it is impossible to give a correct description of the hoard as a whole. Thus it is also impossible to date the hoard correctly; even the amount of the coins is not known.

The number of coins Victor acquired from the hoard amounts to ten pieces.

The oldest coin, which was with certainty to identify, is a copper tetradrachm of Marcus Aurelius, struck at Alexandria, Egypt. Marcus Aurelius ruled from 161-180 AD. The British Museum Catalog number is 1187/994. The coin is scarce.

Then we have a coin of Lucilla, struck in Tracia, Istrus, about 183 AD, British Museum Catalog Number 14.

Further, a coin, almost totally worn, but still showing the Mint-mark "SM", which indicates the coins were struck at Sremska, now in Yugoslavia. Dating of the coin is impossible.

Then we have a coin, showing traces of being struck somewhere in Greece, but worn off so much that the coin cannot be described properly.

The best coin of Victor's new acquisitions is a copper coin of Crispus, the son of Constantine the Great. It has been struck between 317-326 AD. British Museum Catalog number 3157. The coin is not rare or scarce, but the condition is EF.

Then we have 5 minor coins, all of which are not to be identified, but according to the not too clear visible portraits of the Emperors, they must be from the late period of the Roman rule, in any event after the reign of Constantine the Great.

The most interesting piece of the lot is a Bizantyne coin, not too well preserved. The indication that it has been struck at the Constantinople Mint is not to be seen on the coin; it might have been struck at Ravenna, Italy. In this event the coin would be rare, but the poor state of conservation of the coin raises doubts as to its origin. Whatever may be the case, it must have been struck between 600 and 900 AD.

(Continued next page)

SOME ANCIENT COINS (Cont'd):

This being the case, some reservations should be kept in mind as to the origin of the hoard. The patient of Victor's father, who is not a numismatist, did not make sure whether the described coins belonged to the same hoard.

However, the fact remains that it is worthwhile to report such a story as above. Already only to learn us to be skeptical about coin "hoards" found at unexpected places, the more when such a hoard is not reported to the authorities in order to get a proper description of it.

The finder of the coins violated Greek Law in not reporting the hoard. These workmen, of course do not understand the numismatic and historical value of such a finding. They only wanted to make an easy "buck" on the coins they found.

About the genuinity of all the coins, there is not a single doubt; they all have the right ϕ and weight.

Summarizing, the story of the finding of this hoard is far from complete; most probably the rest of the coins have been scattered all over Europe and thus very valuable knowledge has been jeopardized.

Nonetheless, I believe we can congratulate Victor for his new acquisitions, since it most certainly increased his interest in numismatics as a whole.

* * * * *

CLUB EMBLEM CONTEST: It was hoped to present the new emblem in this bulletin but a delay has been encountered in receiving it back from the artist. Our apologies are offered to all of you that are eagerly awaiting the emblem and we will make every effort to have it ready by printing time of the January bulletin.

* * * * *

THIS MONTH'S ORDERS: Inasmuch as there will be no business meeting in December, coin orders must be placed by mail and should be in no later than December 30th. DO NOT BRING YOUR ORDER TO THE DINNER!

* * * * *

1970 DUES: The dues of \$3.00 recommended by the Board of Governors was ratified by the members present at the November Meeting. There is a billing for 1970 dues included on the order blank of all members whose dues show to be unpaid by our records. If our records are in error, please advise us so that we may correct them.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP LIST: In past years we have included an up-to-date membership list with the December Bulletin. Due to the greatly enlarged membership and the cost of mailing this list, it has been decided to furnish only one up-to-date membership list annually on May 1st.

COIN COLLECTING IN POLAND

by Andrzej Wojtyna

Coin collecting here in Poland is not so popular as in the United States. However, every year it is becoming more and more popular.

What do Polish collectors collect?

The most specialized ones collect old Polish coins of the Vasa Dynasty (end of the 16th century and the 17th century to the year 1673) but these coins are very rare and expensive, especially the large size coins such as the orts and thalers. These collectors collect primarily by dates.

Many collectors collect Polish coins from the years 1919 to 1939, particularly the silver ones, also by dates.

I collect general foreign coins and it seems this form of collecting isn't very popular in my country.

There are also the collectors interested only in old Austrian and Russian coins; they collect by types and dates.

Yet another example: I know a man who collects the coins of the U.S.A. by mintmark and dates (the lower values) but it is a rather rare and sporadic case.

In the year 1968 many collectors began to collect the coins of Danzig and the three Baltic states: Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. The prices of these coins are high now.

Now, something about the prices. As I see it, the Polish coins are well-priced in Yeoman's catalog. They are sold here in Poland at prices similar to those in the catalog. Of the coins of Polska Rzeczpospolita Ludowa (after World War II), the biggest difference between real price and the catalog value is for the silver 100 zlotych (Y-57). The prices are really higher -- I myself saw the American tourists paying \$17.00 for this coin. The price of this coin is 2-1/2 times higher than it was in 1966.

Y-56 is nearly impossible to get. There is no concrete price for it as nobody is willing to sell.

That's all for now. If anybody wishes to know details about Polish coins, please write to me. (Kaakrow 28, Osiedle Stalowe 4/95, Poland)

(The above article permitted through the courtesy and permission of Globe Coin Traders Association.)

SUPPLEMENT TO "THE COINAGE OF FINLAND"

Compiled by John K. Graves

In the September 1968 NI Bulletin my detailed work on the Coinage of Finland was published. At the time of that publication there was some questions that went unanswered concerning the 5-Markkaa coins. The missing information is now available. Thanks to Mr. A. Soiniemi, Director of the Helsinki Mint, who had to go into the archives to get this information, here is the story:

- Y42 5 Markkaa - 92% Copper, 6% Aluminum, 2% Nickel
Coins dated 1928-1933, 1935-1942, 1946 (part).
Due to a lack of Nickel, a law issued 28 December 1945 authorized the production of 5 Markkaa coins in Brass, which was begun in 1946 when the Aluminum-Bronze issue containing Nickel was exhausted.
- Y42a 5 Markkaa - 63% Copper & 37% Zinc, also 72% Copper & 28% Zinc.
Coins dated 1946-1949, with perhaps a small number dated 1950.
The 1945 Law specified Brass without analysis. At times there was a shortage of Zinc, so the second alloy was then used, though in smaller quantities than the first. No records are available of the different alloys struck, regarding mintages.
- Y42a 5 Markkaa - 90% Copper, 7% Zinc, 3% Aluminum (Perhaps this issue should be Y42b.)
Coins dated 1950-52.
Still operating under the 1945 Law, the Mint developed this Brass which it calls Aluminum-Brass. Quoting Mr. Soiniemi: "It resembled aluminum-bronze and its colour was pleasant (sic)."

During the times V. Liuhio and P. U. Helle served as Directors of the Mint, apparently no detailed reports were made of the subject of the development of the brass composition, only the final results. During 1949 in particular, there was considerable experimentation being done before the 90-7-3 formula was adopted. There is a definite possibility that some of the trial pieces of various other alloys were released with the regular issues.

(Editors Note: Copies of the original work on Finland by John K. Graves are still available. Send a stamped (2-ounce) - self-addressed envelope for each copy. Overseas members send the equivalent of 25¢ coinage of your country.)

ARTICLES FOR BULLETIN: Once again we are putting out the plea for more cooperation from the membership in furnishing material for the bulletin. As outlined in our By-Laws, the main PURPOSE of NI is to promote the science, and hobby, of numismatology; to cultivate fraternal relations among collectors and numismatic students; to encourage and assist new collectors; foster youth in numismatics; and most important -- to acquire, share, and disseminate numismatic knowledge.

Many of us have access to a wealth of information concerning our particular segment of the numismatic hobby. This information should be shared with your fellow members. It is felt by many that the NI Bulletin is one of the finest club publications available to collectors of non-United States numismatic materials. With the magnitude of our world-wide membership there is no reason that the bulletin cannot continue to be a leader for world collectors. We ask that each member search his conscience and go to work on an article for publication during 1970. If your article requires illustrations and you need assistance, contact Assistant Bulletin Editor Patrick D. Hogan, 614 S. Johnson St., Iowa City, Iowa 52240. You all have seen the quality of Pat's drawings in past bulletins and he is more than anxious to assist you with an article. Articles not needing illustrations should be forwarded to the regular club address.

We are in the process of investigating the cost and possibility of changing to a printed bulletin early in 1970. If we find that we will be able to do this, perhaps we will even be able to reproduce regular photographs, without must loss of detail and quality.

Further, we presently have the facilities to make electro-stat stencils from paste-ups. An example of this type of work was in the October bulletin announcing the Founders Trophy Inauguration. These stencils can be made from any type of past-up, printed maps, drawings, etc. In fact, about the only thing that does not come out in excellent quality is photographs. Photographs can be reproduced in many instances but not always top quality for normal stencil operation. Anyone interested in furnishing an article by use of the electro-stat stencil method should contact Bill Benson or Marvin Fraley at the regular club address for further information on this process.

Now that you know what services are available to assist you in your articles, there is little excuse for most of you not to present an article for publication. Let's all get to work on this and make the NI Bulletin not "one of the finest" but "the finest club publication".

* * * * *

The exhibits to be on display at the Dinner Meeting will be:

Primitive Money
Coinage of Estados Unidos Mexicanos
German Inflationary Notes
Ancient Anglo-Saxon Coinage

Bill Benson
Ed Slade, Jr.
Jack Lewis
Ross Schraeder

* * * * *

The Officers and Staff wish to take this opportunity to wish you a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.